

WEATHER



MONDAY — Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. Lows in the low 60s.



TUESDAY — Sunny. Highs in the 70s. Highs in the low 60s.

Commonwealth TIMES

INSIDE

• Nude models bare all for VCU art foundation classes and for the CT. See story, page 9.



MONDAY, September 11, 1995

The Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University

Vol. 27, No. 6

McTernan case being reviewed *Victim's father speaks out*

James McMahon
CT NEWS EDITOR

Clapping and cheering.

That was what Richard McTernan heard in the courtroom as the charges against the two VCU students accused of the malicious wounding of his son were dropped.

Clapping and cheering.

"It was in very poor taste to clap and cheer," McTernan said during an interview Saturday. "They didn't just score an extra point in basketball... they got away with murder."

"It is tragic to lose a child but to then be applauded out of the courtroom that's not right."

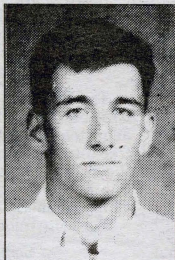
Thomas E. McTernan, a lance corporal in the Marines, died at MCV Hospitals a week after being beaten on Aug. 28, 1994, in an alley outside of the Kappa Delta Rho fraternity house in the 300 block of North Harrison Street.

McTernan, on a weekend leave from Quantico, was invited to the KDR party by a neighborhood friend.

Charges of malicious wounding were dropped against Jon Jason Shields, then 21, and Arthus Bugarin, then 20.

Witnesses from the party delivered vastly different testimony, forcing Judge Ralph B. Robertson to dismiss the charges.

However, a little more than a year since his son's death, Richard, his wife, Jan, a detective with Richmond Police Department, and two sons



T. McTernan



File photo

LIGHTS UP — TIME TO GO

Nightfall in Monroe Park — a sure sign to area homeless staying there that it is time to move on. Because of VCU student concerns for safety a nighttime curfew has been instituted for homeless in Monroe Park.

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Old drugs offer new alternative

Cynthia M. St. Jacques
CT STAFF WRITER

Jane, a young, athletic-looking woman, steps from her car and faces an abortion clinic. Immediately, she is bombarded with slanderous epithets from the crowd of angry people gathered in front of the clinic.

Several try to physically block her passage as they taunt her, calling her a murderer, a heathen and worse. Fighting back tears, Jane, who asked to remain anonymous, pushes her way to the door.

Once inside, she pauses for a moment, lost in reflections about her hard-fought decision. A woman scrambling through the

door behind her, jolts Jane back to her present situation. A receptionist motions for both women to step forward. There are forms to fill out and questions to be answered, and they must be quick about it, warns the receptionist.

More women file in and receive the same instructions.

Jane, along with the others, are herded into the procedure area, where a young assistant hands out gowns and asks them to sit after they had have changed.

One by one the women are called. Jane waits nervously. The dozen or so jittery women chat nervously while they await their turn.

Many of them have traveled more than 100 miles, Jane finds out. The women explain that abortion services are not avail-

ABORTION see story page 4 ►

Rhone sets goals for student affairs

Roblyn Mitchell
CT STAFF WRITER

Henry G. Rhone, VCU's recently appointed vice provost for student affairs, is no newcomer to this business.

Besides serving as interim vice provost for nearly two years, he has served students in a variety of capacities ranging from director of student activities at VCU to dean of student services at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.

"It has definitely been an advantage," Rhone said, adding that it provided him a larger picture of student affairs. "(Being the) permanent vice provost offers the division and the university an image

of consistent leadership."

It also offers the vice provost a chance to work on some long-term goals for the university and its students.

Two of Rhone's long-term goals include concentrating on the student's first-year experience and helping student services become more effective and efficient. Another goal involves extending better service to commuter students.

"We need to include students in the decision-making process," Rhone said. "The SGA's committee of student services has been very influential in saying this is what the students want."

L. Victor Collins, director of minority student affairs and interim director of

RHONE continued to page 4 ►

INSIDE

University Student Health Services offers pregnancy counseling to students. See story, page 4.

PROFILE

Health NOTES

News from the medical community



●Melatonin extends lives of mice

Dr. William Regelson, a VCU medical professor, has discovered a compound that may retard the aging process. Regelson conducted research with an Italian investigator, Dr. Walter Pierpaoli, on the compound melatonin and its effect on aging.

Their experiments, conducted on mice, indicated that melatonin extended the life span and vigor of the animals.

A person's body supply of melatonin gradually declines with age and, largely on the basis of their mouse studies, Pierpaoli and Regelson say aging can be retarded or even reversed by restoring melatonin to youthful levels.

They said the daily dosages needed to maintain youthful levels range from 0.5 to 1 milligram for people in their mid-40s and mid-50s to 2 to 5 milligrams from the mid-50s and older.

Some scientists suggest that it is premature to promote melatonin to the public as an anti-aging compound on the basis of the mouse studies conducted so far.

They say the studies have to be verified by other researchers.

●Hospital goes in one ear, out the other

The Richmond Eye & Ear Hospital and the MCV Hospitals are proposing to build jointly an outpatient surgery center at the Park at Stoney Point, a move that would

result in closing the eye and ear hospital in Downtown Richmond.

According to the proposal filed with the Virginia Department of Health, the new hospital would be called the Richmond Medical Commons.

Last year, Richmond Eye & Ear Hospital sought to relocate from its Marshall Street location, between 10th and 11th streets, to the Park at Stoney Point, south of the James River near the Wiley Bridge.

By asking for an ambulatory surgery center at Stoney Point, the hospital would relinquish its 60 inpatient beds, reducing the number of licensed hospital beds in this area.

Health planners have said for many years that the Richmond area has too many hospital beds, which keeps health costs high.

●Divorce may lead to ill health

Divorce may be the most unrecognized source of health problems in the country, playing a role in higher cancer rates, drug and alcohol use and earlier deaths for men and women, experts said last week.

Those outcomes are laid out in "The Costly Consequences of Divorce" by the National Institute for Healthcare Research, a nonprofit research group in Rockville, Md.

For example, one study within the report showed that divorce raises a man's risk of cancer by nearly as much as smok-

ing a pack of cigarettes a day. Another study contends that admissions rates to psychiatric care facilities are 21 times higher for divorced men than for married men.

●Heart medicine may triple risk of death

One type of widely prescribed heart medication, nifediprene, should be used with caution because of death risk, says the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Researchers say high doses of nifediprene, sold as brand names Procardia and Adalat, may nearly triple the risk of death.

The warning came after a review of 16 studies on various heart medications.

●Faucet manufacturers get the lead out

Seven water-faucet manufacturers have agreed to phase out lead in their products during the next four years and to put warning labels on lead-containing products in the meantime.

The companies — American Standard, Eljer Manufacturing, Elkay Manufacturing, Masco Corp. (makers of Delta and Peerless faucets), Moen, Universal-Rundle Corp. and United States Brass Corp. — agreed that by the end of 1999, 95 percent of their products will be virtually lead free.

The agreement settles lawsuits that

accused manufacturers of making faucets that leak lead into drinking water.

●Study shows aspirin may reduce colon cancer risks

Taking aspirin to lower the risk of heart disease has been recommended for years by some doctors and now it may be recommended for colon and rectal cancers.

Many studies in recent years have shown that people who take aspirin regularly reduce their risk of colon and rectal cancer. But the question of how much should one take and how long should they take it still remains unanswered.

A new study of women nurses found that the risk is reduced when people take as little as four to six aspirin a week, although the effects might not kick in until a decade later.

Researchers who conducted the Nurses' Health Study said they believe the findings apply equally to men.

●Nutrition connection gives free meeting

The Nutrition Connection, a service of Chippenham Medical Center and Johnston-Willis Hospital, will sponsor a free introductory session for its "Healthy Weight" weight management program from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. tomorrow at the Chippenham Sports Medicine Center.

For more information, call 330-2128.

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FYI

for your information

Ball-utiful

Art and science mesh with John Schofield's Ball Machine now being displayed at the Science Museum of Virginia. Made out of spare parts, the machine represents Newton's Law of Motion as billiard balls travel down a miniature roller coaster. The machine will be on display at the museum through Nov. 12.

Rock On

Registration opens today for rock-climbing clinics set for Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. Registration also opens today for a white water rafting trip on the James River scheduled for Sept. 30. Both events are sponsored by the Outdoor Adventure Program. For more information, call 828-6004.

(No) Smokin'nnn'

The American Lung Association of Virginia will sponsor today a "Freedom from Smoking" clinic. The behavior modification clinic will meet once a week for seven sessions from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Belmont Recreation Center, 1600 Hilliard Road in Richmond's Northside. The cost is \$50. For more information, call 355-3295.

Wealth of Health

MCV Hospitals will sponsor a community health bazaar from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Jewish Community Center, 5403 Monument Ave. Services for all ages will include cholesterol screenings, blood-pressure checks and eye and hearing tests. The bazaar is free and open to the public.

Adolescents in Trouble

A conference on "Multisystemic Therapy: Long-Term Success with Antisocial behavior in Adolescents" will open at 9 a.m., Sept. 13, at the Richmond Marriott, 500 E. Broad St. The program is sponsored by VCU's Commonwealth Institute for Child and Family Studies. For more information, call 828-4393.

They've Got Style?

University Counseling Services will sponsor a workshop to help students identify learning styles and professors' teaching styles. The program is scheduled to start at 3:30 p.m., Sept. 14, in the Forum Room in the commons. For more information, call Joy Bressler at 828-6200.

Pulp Fiction

Learn how to make your own book from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sept. 16, at the Science Museum of Virginia with their program "Reduced to a Pulp: Paper-making." Participants also may take notes on the process in their made-from-scratch books with ink made from berries and nuts. For more information, call 367-6557 or 1-800-659-1727.

Ellis lends helping hand to students, faculty

Scott Walker
CT STAFF WRITER

For more than eight years, Lois M. Ellis, administrative assistant to the dean of humanities and sciences, steadily has offered solutions and comfort to those entering her office.

"I always try to ensure that everyone in this office goes the extra mile to help solve problems," Ellis said. "We try to concentrate especially hard on helping the students."



Unsung hero

Ellis' daily duties include scheduling appointments and meetings as well as handling all correspondence for the dean.

In addition, she serves as technical adviser for promotions and tenure, faculty hiring and faculty counseling in the college.

Ellis' favorite and most important job, however, is dealing with faculty, parents and students when problems and concerns arise.

Still, the administrative assistant identifies her biggest accomplishment at VCU as gaining the knowledge of the university vital to her successful assistance of faculty, staff and students.

"I had never been in a university environment before working here," Ellis said. "It was a new experience and challenge for me."

David R. Hiley, dean of the college, said he couldn't make a move without Ellis.

"Lois is completely in control of my schedule," Hiley said. "I absolutely rely on the fact that she is on top of everything. Everyone who has contact with her realizes she's a class act."

"She is always gracious and professional and takes a special interest in students and faculty."

Ellis' other responsibilities include maintaining the faculty database and salary contracts for full-time members, catering at faculty meetings and retreats and serving as the liaison among department heads



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

HOW MAY I HELP YOU? — Lois M. Ellis, administrative assistant to the dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences, spends her days helping faculty, parents and students with problems and concerns.

and the dean.

Hiley called the university fortunate in having Ellis as the public representative for the College of Humanities and Sciences.

"I admire and trust the way she deals with all the people she comes in contact with — sometimes it seems like magic."

In addition to assisting the dean, Ellis supervises people like Kim King who used to work in the humanities and sciences office.

"From the first day I started, Lois was caring and respectful," said King, who assisted Ellis for the past three years. "She treats me like a daughter."

Ellis, King said, gives her time to anyone who needs it.

"She always makes time to deal with

students. She will even stay late if someone needs her help," said King, one of her student workers. "She is a caring and helpful person. The students are lucky to have her."

Ellis, who moved to Richmond from Martinsville in 1986, began her career at VCU as the executive secretary for the dean of humanities and sciences and was promoted to administrative assistant in 1992.

She said she moved to Richmond to be near her daughters and grandchildren.

"If I had stayed in Martinsville, I would have missed out on the experiences and challenges of university life," Ellis said. "I wouldn't have had the opportunity to really help people, which is what my job is all about."

R.A.I.N. provides relief for those with AIDS

Scott Walker
CT STAFF WRITER

AIDS — an acronym that can be a frightening word for most students. Where do they turn if they or someone they know becomes HIV positive or has AIDS?

The answer for many VCU students is the Richmond AIDS Information Network, commonly referred to as R.A.I.N.

R.A.I.N. is the Fan Free Clinic's AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases program. It offers free counseling for people or the significant others of people with STDs.

The Fan Free Clinic, a nonprofit organization, provides medical and counseling services through donations and volunteers.

"Volunteers are essential. We offer training four times per year," said Mary Jones, counselor and case manager for R.A.I.N. "Our clinic is here to provide services that people cannot get elsewhere."

The Fan Free Clinic, she said, operates with three solid policies. First is to be nonjudgmental in all ways, including sexual orientations.

"We explain this to all of our new clients," she said. "If they can't handle that, we tell them to go to another clinic."

Another policy insists on confidentiality and client safety. "We give classes to all

of our volunteers on how to protect our clients," Jones said. "We also prefer that all of our clients make a contact call or fill out an intake log before attending counseling for the first time."

The network offers many different types of support groups for Richmond residents including students.

"We try to offer all the programs necessary to counsel people during all stages of HIV or AIDS," Jones said.

One counseling group called "Significant Others" involves parents, friends and relatives of HIV-positive persons.

"Significant Others helps educate people on what changes to expect and how to deal with these changes," Jones said.

Another group is known as Richmond

OPEN DOORS

FAN FREE CLINIC: 358-6343
1721 Hanover Ave., Richmond, Va. 23220

HIV+Women: 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays
Contact: Mary Jones
HIV+Men: 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursdays
Contact: Ed Andrews, Mary Jones or Kate Buggs

Richmond Help/HPV: 7 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of every month
Contact: Mary Jones

Negative Partners of HIV+Persons: 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays
Contact: David Powers

Bereavement Issues: contact Kate Buggs for group information

Complementary Therapies Group: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays
Contact: Kate Buggs

HELP/HPV.

"It deals with patients who have Herpes and HPV (human papilloma-virus)," she said. "We cover all the social and physical changes a client will face. We are the only group in Richmond dealing with this prob-

MCTERNAN

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have a second chance for justice.

Richmond Police Chief Jerry A. Oliver wrote a letter last week to the McTernans, promising that the department will review the case.

"You have my assurance that the Richmond Police Department will seek a just resolution to the tragic death of your son," he wrote.

McTernan, for obvious reasons, said he was pleased with Oliver's decision.

"No one has been held accountable for my son's death," he said.

Now that the case is being reviewed, McTernan expects to find that accountability.

"My son is dead and those boys are going to school every day," he said.

Oliver has asked Deputy Chief of Investigative Operations Fred Russell to oversee the review process.

Russell said Oliver asked him to take a look at the case and then make a decision about what route to take. Options include reopening the case or allowing the previous decision to stand.

"This was obviously a very tragic occurrence," he said. "It is not unusual for these concerns to result in this type of activity."

Russell said he intends to review what currently is in the file and expects to make a decision today, concerning what actions to take. "We want to make sure we left no stones unturned," he added.

What his family wants, McTernan said, is the same type of effort that any other citizen would get when their son has been murdered.

A year ago, however, McTernan says they did not get that effort.

"I don't know what forces were at work," he said. "I don't know if people were trying to be politically correct or what."

McTernan also questions VCU's handling of the situation. VCU, he said, told him they would take no action against the fraternity unless the Richmond Police Department did first.

"The bottom line is that someone was killed that night and no one has been held accountable," he said. "The fraternity had an open bar without a beverage license and were serving under-age people.

Those issues, he continued, never were dealt with by the university.

"The fact that VCU is allowing that fraternity to carry on is a slap in the face," he said. "When do we draw the line ... do we wait for four or five more kids to get killed?"

Elizabeth C. Bell, assistant director for student activities who oversees Greek affairs, said that she worked hand in hand with the police department and KDR's national office to help collect information on what happened that evening. She said the university, however, could take no action itself since the party occurred off campus.

"The party took place in the jurisdiction of the Richmond police," she said. "For the rules and procedures to apply it would of had of been an on-campus event."

Local KDR members declined to comment last night.

McTernan added that he never received a sympathy card or the like from VCU or any representative of the KDR national office to express their condolences for the loss of his son.

"There is no accountability ... you can do whatever you want and get away with it," he said. "No one in my family will ever go to VCU."

If the case is reopened and a new set of indictments result, McTernan said he would not feel comfortable with the Commonwealth Attorney's Office handling the case.

"We have already expressed our wishes to the police department that a special prosecutor handle the case," he said. "I don't think there is anyone that wouldn't understand why we wouldn't want one."

Should the case not net an indictment of some sort, McTernan said his family would have no choice but to accept it.

"Our civil attorney took a look at the case and did not agree that no one should be held accountable," he said. "The previous case was not handled very well, and no one was held accountable."

An indictment and conviction, he said, would make it easier to handle Tom's death and the events that transpired that August evening.

"I will be able to go home and tell my children that the system that their mother works for worked for us."

RHONE

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student activities, said he would like Rhone's assistance in expanding the scope and responsibilities of the minority student affairs office as well as supporting it and student activities in a partnership with the greater Richmond community.

Grace E. Harris, provost and vice president for academic affairs who served as acting president this summer, also envisions goals on which she would like Rhone to focus. These include reorganizing the student affairs aspect of the university so student services are better integrated and more combining of student services with the academic support programs.

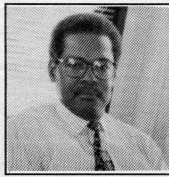
"Rhone is a well-balanced, even-tempered, engaging man," Harris said. "He works well with students and administrators. He is definitely an advocate for the student."

Although Rhone credits his family, supporters, colleagues and faith as contributing to his career success, others credit his winning personality and ability to relate to students and administrators as the key.

"It has been a pleasure working for Henry Rhone. He is a thorough, deliberate, thoughtful person," Collins said. "He is consistent with his personality — whether things are bad or good, he is always the same."

Harris said Rhone's ability to remain calm while being serious about his work became evident last spring when students protested on campus about the denial of tenure to three faculty members.

Rhone, she said, talked to students to help them fully understand the is-



Rhone

sues while remaining an advocate for them, because he firmly believes in any student's right to ask questions and seek answers.

Collins said during that situation, Rhone talked to VCU President Eugene P. Trani while negotiating with students to help keep a potentially explosive situation under control.

Rhone, the father of four, said his children help him to deal effectively with the students at VCU and vice versa. Because he has teen-aged children, he said he is not stuck in a "time warp."

As they progress, Rhone said, he develops a clearer picture of what young adults are facing today, also giving him the advantage of helping his children understand the college experience.

"VCU has so many talented students — all talented in different ways," Rhone said. "This is a great institution with a lot to offer, but some people are so scared of what urban means. Urban adds advantages. Richmond offers a great experience beyond the campus."

Rhone suggests the university could provide students and parents with a more positive view if it hired consultants to help communicate the university's positive aspects.

The biggest challenge that he seems to face, however, is finding a way to unite VCU's diverse student population.

"There is no one-size-fits-all approach," Rhone said.

Harris also identified a challenge to better integrate the MCV and academic campuses and to develop a much closer alliance among the student-affairs division and other units of the university.

"Rhone is committed to working towards the solution of problems," she said. "He thinks beyond the immediate problem. He takes his role seriously."

As for Collins, he describes Rhone's ability to maintain the division in some tough times:

"We [division of student affairs] have had all kinds of things to happen. Henry Rhone has continued to hold this division together through a period of unprecedented change."

ABORTION

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able in their areas.

Finally, the nurse calls her name. She helps Jane onto the table. As she positions Jane's feet into stirrups above the table, she explains the procedure.

Jane, feeling bewildered, tries to grasp what is being said to her. Tube ... suction ... uterus ... discomfort. Jane tries to make sense of the jumble of words.

Ten minutes later, the nurse helps Jane from the table and directs her to yet another waiting area.

Here, Jane receives more instructions and schedules a follow-up appointment in six weeks.

The nurse instructs Jane that she must spend the next hour in this room, while they monitor her. After which, if no complications occur, she may leave.

Relief, sadness and guilt are among the myriad of emotions that Jane grapples

with as she waits the interminable hour. The women talk very little now.

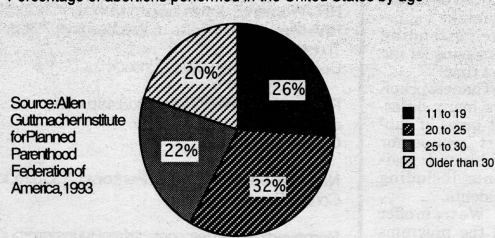
Finally, Jane is allowed to redress and go home. But as she heads for the door she does not think of what waits on the other side.

The moment Jane steps out, again the

angry words of the protestors attack her. Slurs, even worse than when she walked in are hurled at her. This time, they throw things. Inside her car, she quickly locks the doors. As she pulls away from the atrocity, horrified and in shock, she glances back but only once.

Since its legalization in 1973, approximately 1.5 million surgical abortions have

Percentage of abortions performed in the United States by age



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ABORTION continued to page 6 ►

Pregnant?

Health services counsels students

Cynthia M. St. Jacques

CT STAFF WRITER

For VCU students seeking information and guidance concerning unwanted pregnancies, University Student Health Services provides counseling and other programs.

Health services provides programs ranging from prevention education to dealing with the aftereffects of an unwanted pregnancy.

"Our main focus is on prevention," said Betty Reppert, associate director of University Health Services. Condoms and birth-control pills are available at reduced rates from the pharmacy. The office also conducts on-going education programs on campus, as well as in the dorms.

During the 1993-1994 academic year, the office administered 1,157 pregnancy tests to students on the academic campus. Of those, 96 tested positive. For those students faced with an unexpected pregnancy, the staff offers counseling to ensure that the student is aware of all options available for dealing with unwanted pregnancies.

Students are advised to seek prenatal

care, if they decide against abortion.

"The cost of prenatal care must be born by the student," Dorice Rice, assistant director for University Student Health Services, said, adding that the office does not provide prenatal care or abortion services.

She said student health will refer students to facilities that provide those services.

"We are very choosy about whom we refer people to," Reppert said. "We do not refer students to organizations that are known to pressure students into a certain option."

Of the 6 million pregnancies each year in the United States, 1.5 million end in abortion.

"This is a much higher rate than in other industrialized nations," Grace Sparks, executive director for the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood, said.

In other countries, a much clearer commitment to reducing the number of pregnancies, in terms of education and accessibility to contraception, exists.

What student health seeks to protect is students' ability to continue their educations by providing them with information and options, Reppert said.

Brian French

Faulkner, Packwood, Ripken: Three Takes On Endurance

During the past month ...

• Shannon Faulkner, who spends two years fighting to get into the Club Med of Charleston, S.C. (otherwise known as The Citadel), spends only five days actually attending before calling it quits (for a courtroom/drill field ratio of roughly 146 to one). The nation keeps an eagle eye on her every move and when the whole ordeal is done, the populace is split on whether her leaving, or her crashing the men-only purity in the first place, was a good thing.

• Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., spends countless months defending his honor, his dignity and (most importantly) his prime-time seat as head of the Senate Finance Committee in the face of sexual harassment charges. But after counting the votes, he decides to give up the ghost and resign. The nation doesn't quite keep an eagle eye on the proceedings, but is interested nevertheless. When the whole ordeal is done, the prevailing opinion: Good riddance.

• Cal Ripken Jr. spends the last 12 years nudging his way closer to a mark more akin to immortality than a mere mortal record: Lou Gehrig's consecutive-games-played streak. As he came to within throwing distance, the world turned its collective attention to watch Ripken fly where eagles dare to tread. When the whole ordeal is done, they even cheer him in Yankee Stadium.

Three different people, three different situations, three different solutions, three different reactions.

At first glance, it certainly appears the former should take cue from the latter for perseverance, but such heady things are rarely that cut-and-dry.

First, Faulkner was hardly alone in her decision to quit. More than 40 others made the same choice, and it's not an uncommon one at The Citadel. It's not just an exaggerated version of boys playing with military toys. It's some real — and at times unreal — pain and struggle.

But Faulkner erred in the timing of her decision. She spent two years fighting the system, apparently for women everywhere who've been oppressed by some form of monolithic patriarchy — be it rejection at the country club, neglect in the promotion process, harassment, what have you — then she does her Roberto Duran and says *no más* after a mere five days in action, most of which were spent in the infirmary.

Ergo, any gains made by her lengthy fight to get in were wiped away by her

speed-of-light departure.

She definitely could learn a lesson or two from Ripken. Maybe not stay in the barracks for 2,000-plus days (that would be tantamount to cruel and unusual punishment for the civilian masses) but at the very least stick out the semester.

It's nearly impossible to judge anyone, anything or anyplace in a five-day period. Especially during Hell Week.

And if it was the living under a microscope she couldn't handle, then why fight for so long and call so many press conferences?

Meanwhile, Packwood probably quit at the right time. He was informed he'd be expelled soon, so he took the (for lack of a better term) honorable way out and retired.

He could have fought, but the die was cast, his fate was sealed, and the fat lady was waiting for the opening act to wrap up.

That's not being a quitter. Ripken likely will leave when he knows it's time. And that's exactly what Packwood did.

And as far as Ripken goes, nothing written can be better enunciated by his victory lap around Camden Yards the night he broke The Streak. So maybe it's better to look at the recent woes of one of his shortstop counterparts.

Specifically, Milwaukee Brewers' shortstop Jose Valentin, who recently was forced to miss a game. Reason? He cut his hand while slicing a pineapple.

But while that makes Ripken's streak more amazing (after all, God only knows how many times he's eaten pineapple during his streak), something Keith Olbermann said later that night on SportsCenter put the streak (and everything else about perseverance) in its proper place.

As the story goes, Gehrig removed himself from the Yankees lineup after playing game No. 2130. A few days later, he was officially diagnosed with ALS, a deadly form of muscular dystrophy that now takes Gehrig's name. He gives his "Today I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth," speech, then dies two years later.

But ALS is a slow killer, usually taking well over a decade from initial diagnosis to death.

What that means (according to Olbermann) is that Lou Gehrig played as many as 700 games — consecutively! — with a debilitating and fatal disease.

Now *that's* endurance.

Ryan Templeton

Insomnia? Try A Little Jackhammering

Many of you out there are constantly being pelted by something that we can all seriously relate to, and that of which I speak is noise. It's a natural resource here at VCU, and there is no evidence to suggest it's nonrenewable. I don't mean just the car traffic, the wrenching of air conditioners or the noisy activity of cafeteria workers. I'm talking about the in-your-residence-area-I'm-being-loud-for-no-freakin'-reason noise.

As a freshman I found ways to block out most of it. Now, as a sophomore, I'm finding I can hear Snotty Susie snoring at Johnson Hall. At the same time, I can hear Mack Daddy Hacky gagging on his postnasal drip way over the heck in Rhoads Hall.

More importantly, and indeed most annoyingly, I can hear the morons outside playing monkey bars on my walkway while their female counterparts shrill and scream as if the 200 or so students around them are not really giving much thought to sleeping that night.

And although I hate to dispel any misconceptions regarding higher mammal behavior, people DO sleep at night. I know, I know, you're thinking, "Wait a minute Mr. Templeton, sleeping can't possibly be intended for nighttime hours. Why, what am I supposed to do when I miss class, or when I'm studying, or standing in line at Hibbs?"

Granted, most people don't mind noise. (Ironically, I hear that from the very people who make the most of it.) I can take constant, necessary, earth-shaking sounds like the Mystery Machine in the suite courtyard of Gladding Residence Center. I have yet to determine the function of such a machine, which if you haven't heard it yet, sounds similar to the strangulation of a hapless stock-car engine.

My girlfriend has discovered its convulsions occur about every 15 minutes, give or take a half-minute. I invite you to stand in the courtyard and listen intently.

Today, I had the pleasure of hearing a jackhammer outside my window. Upon taking an investigative look, I saw a blue-collar worker jackhammering a course leading directly underneath my window.

His progress wasn't too swift and neither was his intellect. I could not help but notice that this man was hammering right next to the power cord, sometimes actually pausing to move the cord out from under the machine with his foot!

Now stop me if I'm wrong, but doesn't the first lesson in Jackhammering 101

point out that no one really should ever use the tool on itself, especially if doing so would BREAK the tool?

At this particular time, I was trying to engage in some good old-fashioned schoolwork and, contrary to popular belief, jackhammering does not help one concentrate. I just sort of stared out my window, whimpering in that student sort of way: "Boy, if I don't do something soon I might never see graduation day."

And so I did what any young, aspiring medical student would do in a situation where noise prevented him from studying. I packed up my books, looked at the clock and fell asleep.

I have no idea why I slept so soundly amid the jackhammering. It defies everything I learned about basic acoustics. I was reading one minute and then —

poof — the next minute I was asleep. It wasn't until these guys stopped jackhammering that I was able to get up and accomplish something. I mean, it's not like I could stick my head out the window and say, "Hey bub! Turn that thing off! I'm tryin' to stay awake in here!"

Perhaps making noise is a natural, habitual thing that must be carried out; just as my dog must run around in circles before plumping down into positions most fetuses would deem unpleasant.

Then again, dogs bark a lot, so maybe the noise they make is somehow related to their sleeping habits. I'm determined to find a correlation here. Perhaps it's that those who make the most noise must sleep by first becoming nauseatingly dizzy.

Humans accomplish much the same by drinking large quantities of beer, in addition to running around in circles. This in turn creates even more noise from belching, burping and the Almighty knows what else. Such activity then induces sleep, which also can be noisy.

So you see noise and sleep are interwoven. There MUST be a connection! If only we could find the link, then we could answer questions as to why people make so darn much noise at night, or why jackhammers induce drowsiness. Or more importantly, why DO dogs turn around so much before sleeping?

As a young, aspiring medical student, these things nag at my intellect. And I must solve them, analyze them, break them down and sell any results for ludicrous amounts of money. Until such time, I guess I must deal with the noise around me. I certainly intend to.

I'm going out to buy a jackhammer this very minute.

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— eng3slr —
Editorial E-mail

ABORTION

continued from page 4

Or is it?

Research, recently reported in the New England Journal of Medicine, indicates another possible option for termination to pregnancy, which involves the use of two drugs already available by prescription on the American market.

A combination of the two drugs, Methotrexate — currently used to treat cancer — and Misoprostol — which is used for the prevention of gastric ulcer disease, offers an alternative, yet not extensively tested, means of pregnancy termination, according to research by Dr. Richard Hausknecht, a gynecologist at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City.

In clinical studies performed by Hausknecht, 178 women in their first trimester of pregnancy were given a low-dose injection of Methotrexate, followed by a vaginal suppository of Misoprostol five to seven days later. The combination produced abortions in 96 percent of the volunteers and no important side effects were noted.

"This combination offers a simple approach to the termination of pregnancy and has the potential to become widely available," Hausknecht wrote in his research.

In the United States, once a drug has been approved by the Federal Drug Administration, in most cases it legally can be used for any purpose.

This new research may prove to end the debate about the introduction of the French abortion pill, RU-486, into the American market.

It probably will not, however, end the debate between those for and those against legalized abortion.

Fiona Givens of the Virginia Society for Human Life, said any doctor who would prescribe the two drugs for abortion is "irresponsible."

"We (the organization) would hope that people realize that the doctors would be using them as guinea pigs," Givens said.

The VCHS does not support violence, she said, but they do plan to heighten awareness through educating the public.

Currently more than 83 percent of all U.S. counties lack an abortion provider.

With Methotrexate combined with Misoprostol any doctor could provide pregnancy termination.

Dr. John A. Board, vice chairman of obstetrics and gynecology at MCV, said, "It is perfectly legal for any doctor to prescribe Methotrexate/Misoprostol for pregnancy termination."

Once a drug is approved with an FDA indication, which means that the drug is safe to be used for a particular procedure or health problem, Board said, a physician may use it for any medical procedure he wants.

Exceptions to this include prescribing a stimulant for weight loss that is normally used for other purposes, he said, but the use of Methotrexate and Misoprostol for abortion is not one of these cases.

Most, if not all, doctors, Board said, probably would not use the two drugs to abort a normal pregnancy until they know it is safe for patients and safe enough to guard against a malpractice suit.

"What a doctor wants to do is to make sure that a lot of doctors are (prescribing

the drug) already," he said. "If you can get 20 doctors to say it's a good way or if textbooks say it's a good thing or a bunch of articles say it's a good thing, then you have a good defense in court. ... Or the best defense in court is FDA indication."

If a woman requested this procedure at MCV, he said, it would be looked at on an individual basis.

Bradford Wyche, director of Medical Services at Planned Parenthood, said the physicians at the local chapter will not be offering this form of pregnancy termination until they receive approval from the National Planned Parenthood Association.

She did not rule out, however, the possibility of a Planned Parenthood site that included physicians being used in conjunction with the ongoing research of the two drugs, as an alternative to surgical abortion.

As the drug continues to be tested, pro-life advocates question the psychological ramifications of a woman aborting outside doctors' offices.

"Who knows what a woman may experience as she watches her unborn child being flushed down the toilet," said one activist, who asked that her name not be used.

Board also said the psychological effects is an unknown element.

Grace Sparks, executive director for the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood, said "this method is not as dramatic as a later abortion."

At 63 days gestation — assuming the Methotrexate/Misoprostol combination had been given before this — the tissue aborted is not significant, she said, adding that the woman would experience what

would seem like a very heavy period.

Jane said now she wishes that the medical procedure had been available to her at that time.

"I could have been spared the emotional traumatization inflicted upon me by the activists outside the clinic, since I could have gone to any doctor," she said. "And they can't protest in front of every doctor's office."

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Altered take on MTV awards show

Brian R. Wells
CT STAFF WRITER

MTV.

Mindless Television should be the meaning for that abbreviation. Where do I get off being critical of a major music mecca?

Take the opening act for Thursday's MTV Video Music Awards.

In a historical sense, Michael Jackson wears the crown for monopolizing our ears in the '80s, but MTV finds it crucial to shove the guy down our throats even more. Jackson opened the ceremonies at New York's Radio City Music Hall by displaying his outdated, crotch-grabbing dances and excerpts from his earlier works.

When he finally got to his new work, Jackson showed the viewers it's all the same synthetic sound he produced during the '80s. The only interesting part to his set was Slash's guitar solo that seemed like it wouldn't end and with which Jackson could not even compete.

Moving on, TLC with their pure singing abilities, reached a higher plateau by sweeping three awards: Best R&B Video, Best Video of the Year and the Viewer's Choice Award.

Each of the three artists sported American-Indian style attire, which goes to show that talent and natural beauty reign above money. Remember, ladies and gentlemen: Presentation is everything, but Jackson should learn from TLC that talent should not be a tool for exploitation.

As if the ceremony was not dry enough, Dennis Miller provided an even drier feel to the night by poking at the bands with his spittle tongue.

Although it took a second to catch up with Miller's remarks, he provided meaning to the otherwise meaningless night.

Kurt Loder, MTV's familiar face and longtime host, jumped Miller's boundaries of dryness, but with no humor himself. Interviewing the performers, Loder seemed to be out-of-touch with the artists, shown by his fake laughs and smiles.

During an interrogation with the sagging Madonna, Courtney Love interrupted and brought some spontaneity to the grandparents of MTV. Maybe she should run the lagging music television station.

Here are some quick highlights of the show: REM, bald and proud, brought hope to the ceremony by attempting to reproduce the indie rock sound they lost years ago.

On the positive side, video directors of past and present finally received their due recognition by the musicians.

Gary Gray, director of TLC's video for "Waterfalls," shared the credit for the success of the musicians.

Directors and artists involved in the video-making process are sometimes a hidden factor behind well-known musicians, a component MTV often fails to explain to its audience.

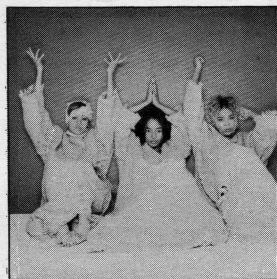
Lastly, realize that MTV was not in complete control of the ceremony. The sponsors financing the event tuned the dial for our viewing pleasure.

Sponsors included Levi's, Pepsi, Sony, Snickers, Budweiser and the list goes on.

A group of companies that are dinosaurs regulated an MTV event that is supposed to be on the cutting edge. Think about it. Money is control, and MTV is a big outlet for these companies' demands.



Review



CREEPING UP ON MTV — TLC and their crew swept up three MTV awards at Thursday night's ceremony.

And the winners are...

Best Male Video: Tom Petty, "You Don't Know How It Feels"

Best Video from a film: Seal, "Kiss From a Rose" ("Batman Forever")

Best New Artist in Video: Hootie and the Blowfish, "Hold My Hand"

Best Dance Video: Michael and Janet Jackson, "Scream"

Best Video Director: Spike Jonze for Weezer's "Buddy Holly"

Best R&B Video: TLC, "Waterfalls"

Best Female Video: Madonna, "Take a Bow"

Best Video of the Year: TLC, "Waterfalls"

Best Alternative Video: Weezer, "Buddy Holly"

Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award: REM

Viewer's Choice Award: TLC, "Waterfalls"

Best Rap Video: Dr. Dre, "Keep Their Hands Ringing"

Best Hard Rock Video: White Zombie, "More Human Than Human"

Best Choreography: Michael and Janet Jackson, "Scream"

Best Special Effects: Rolling Stones, "Love is Strong"

Best Art Direction: Michael and Janet Jackson, "Scream"

Best Editing: Weezer, "Buddy Holly"

Best Cinematography: Rolling Stones, "Love is Strong"

Best Breakthrough Video: Weezer, "Buddy Holly"

Henry Rollins can bend your ear

Bill Carter
CT STAFF WRITER

It was a magical night.

I don't know if it was the full moon, my lucky shirt or some pixie granting me a dream come true.

Whatever it was, I knew I was in for a treat even before I experienced the Henry Rollins Spoken Word show.

Henry Rollins, the highly charismatic and well-recognized singer for the Rollins Band, also is well known for his Spoken Word shows.

For those who have not heard of a "spoken-word" show, it usually includes a musical performer, sans the band, "talking" to an audience. These are not speeches but simply a down-home style of conversation. Such well-known musicians as Chuck D of Public Enemy and Jello Biafra of the Dead Kennedys have participated in this type of performance.

They spin their tales and speak their views. Henry Rollins, however, is a lot less political than Chuck D or Biafra, as illustrated by their performances on their spoken-word compact discs.

Saturday night at the Flood Zone was wonderful with Henry Rollins. He appeared light-hearted and concentrated on more amusing subjects.

In the past, Rollins has been notorious for being very funny for a time and then without any warning, suddenly switching to drop-dead serious subjects.

When Rollins informed the audience that the Spoken Word show in Richmond was only the second he has performed in 2 1/2 years, it made us feel special.

He addressed rumors about his sexuality (he is not gay); touring in strange countries and the devastating poverty the band witnessed; his love for his friend Ian Mckaye of Fugazi ("If there is a benefit, Fugazi will be there. If there is a cat in a tree, Fugazi will play the show."); getting slapped in the face by Al Pacino; and about being ugly ("If you're ugly ... DEAL with it!").

Rollins touched on the accusation that he is "selling out."

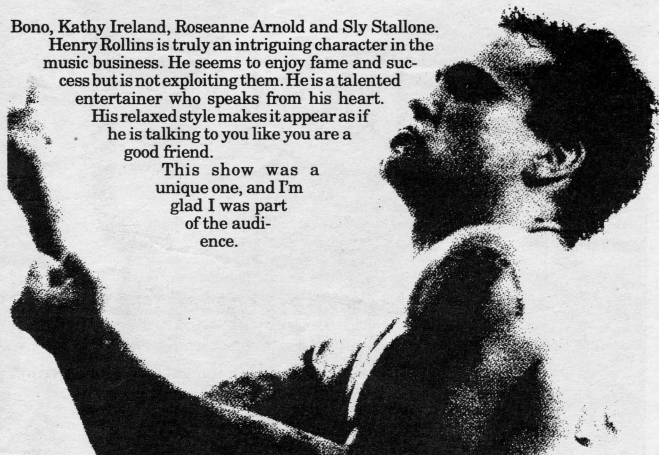
He treated this topic very nicely ... he is just taking corporate money from the movie companies to run his record label. He also took time to poke shots at at some of entertainment's biggest stars such as U2's

Bono, Kathy Ireland, Roseanne Arnold and Sly Stallone.

Henry Rollins is truly an intriguing character in the music business. He seems to enjoy fame and success but is not exploiting them. He is a talented entertainer who speaks from his heart.

His relaxed style makes it appear as if he is talking to you like you are a good friend.

This show was a unique one, and I'm glad I was part of the audience.



STRONG WORDS — Henry Rollins performed at the Flood Zone Saturday.



The of nud

"The ultimate work of art is the human body."

— Jason Allen, a
model and

EXPOSED — Sarah Cosby, a nude model and VCU social work student, poses languidly in an empty Art Foundation Program classroom inside Franklin Terrace.





The art of nudity

“The ultimate work of art — the human body.”

— Jason Allen, a 25-year-old nude model and VCU art student

EXPOSED — Sarah Cosby, a nude model and VCU social work student, poses languidly in an empty Art Foundation Program classroom inside Franklin Terrace.

Suzanne Alford/Commonwealth Times

Some VCU students are showing all for art's sake. Now they're telling all. These nude models have to conquer many fears — their's and the artists' — to be successful.

Libby Stephens
CT Eye Editor

You're standing — frozen and naked — at the front of a classroom feeling all eyes upon you.

Some of us would call this a good dream, others a nightmare. And there are those who call it work. VCU's Art Foundation Program hires models for the School of the Arts to pose nude for drawing, painting, fashion and illustration classes. This semester three males and seven females are baring all in the name of art.

“By studying the human body, students can learn everything they need to learn about drawing proportion, rendering volume,” said Charles Bleick, director of the Art Foundation Program. “They learn to deal with trying to represent something that's not static and cold — but alive. They learn perspective.”

But what is it like from the models' perspectives?

“I was worried,” Sarah Cosby, a VCU social work student, said of her first disrobing last October before an art class. “I didn't know what to do. I wore a bathrobe into the class. Once I got into my pose I was fine. The lights were on me. The room lights were dim. It was like being on stage. I didn't notice the audience.”

Debbie Merrill's initial fears mirrored Cosby's.

“I was scared to death,” she said.

Merrill, who describes her physique as very angular or semi-skeletal, had modeled in the buff in the past for a J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College sculpture class. There she was asked to be still. Her first appearance at VCU would require movement.

“I dressed in a long shirt, using it as a robe effect, dropped it, then I got up there and moved,” the 34-year-old pre-pharmacy student said. “I tried to be liquid and graceful about it.”

That was 18 months ago. The anxieties now have faded.

“I love it now,” said the wild-maned Merrill. “I was a bookkeeper, and I quit that to be able to model full time.”

“I enjoy being in the art school, being a part of it. I've seen an AFO class go through its second year and their improvement is exponential. I feel like I'm contributing something to art.”

Jason Allen, Merrill's boyfriend of more than three years who also poses nude, models not only to help others learn, but also for his own education.

“I learn a lot from watching the students draw,” the 25-year-old art student said. “I feel I get extra insight. When I look at other people's art, I see mistakes I have made and listen to the teacher's suggestions.”

“I'm there to learn and to give what I can so they'll have someone to draw and learn from. I hope someone can give me that as well.”

Not a sexual thing

Cosby, Merrill and Allen resent some people's interpretation that their work is sleazy.

“It's easy to have misconceptions about something you've never experienced,” Cosby said. “I'm not doing this for my sexuality or anyone else's. To me we've all got the same stuff — the only difference is proportion.”

Cosby shuns likening the work to a nightclub striptease.

“There's nothing sexy about it. Modeling is on a totally different plane than dancing at the Red Light Inn (a local strip club),” Cosby said. “The goal is not to get people turned on. It's tasteful — not Hustleresque.”

Merrill shares a similar attitude.

“I won't do anything I consider vulgar. No posing on my hands and knees,” she said. “Anything you see in Hustler, you won't see on the stand. Sensual is good. Vulgar is not. This is sensual.”

Penis shy

It seems to be male nudity that makes most students shy away. “People are very uncomfortable about drawing male genitalia,”

Allen said. “It has a lot to do with how children are brought up. We're a little more desensitized to female nudity. Male nudity is taboo. I find both the male and female physique very beautiful.”

“Some center on the genitalia because they've never drawn it, but most others avoid it. Some won't even look at the pelvic-area of the body.”

The first time Allen stripped before a class, one young man “freaked out.” He carried on, Allen said, yelling things like, “Wait a minute, this is a man. What are y'all perverted or something?” “It upset him so much. I put my clothes back on and walked over to him.”

“I told him, ‘Think of me scientifically — as a piece of meat. There's nothing sexual about it. But, if you do have any sexual pangs that's OK’ He calmed down by the third and last session.”

Easy money

During the '80s the Art Foundation Program increased models' pay from minimum wage to about \$7 an hour.

Bleick said, “We found that models were being hired by the Virginia Museum (of Fine Arts) and the University of Richmond. Our models would say, ‘We get paid better elsewhere,’ and leave. So ten years ago we became more competitive.”

Merrill, who posed for up to 12 classes each week last spring, is fed up with the notion that she and the other models are getting something for nothing.

“One person told me, ‘That's an easy way to make \$7.’ ‘Freeze,’” she said. “I said, ‘Don't move!’” After only five minutes in the type of pose Merrill is expected to hold for an hour, she said, he was asking how long it had been.

There are two main types of poses the models must maintain — gesture and long poses.

In gesture, the model freezes for 30 seconds to two minutes, while artists sketch the basic form. Though short-lived, gesture poses are dynamic and athletic, requiring models to do things such as dangle from beams or stand on one foot.

Long poses can run from 30 minutes to nearly two hours without a break. Try that without scratching an itch or disturbing the placement of a shadow or falling asleep.

“I tend to get very relaxed,” Allen said. “Fighting sleep is a big thing. I snore.”

Merrill said, “Sometimes if it's really quiet and warm and dark in the room, it's difficult to stay awake. So I just talk — about anything.”

Body image

If someone is going to work in the nude, they need to be comfortable with their bodies.

“I'm fat,” the piercing, blue-eyed Allen said, “but I'm quite comfortable with myself. We weren't born with clothes on, why wear them? When we (he and Merrill) walk in our front door at home the clothes come off.”

Merrill added, “And they're not back on unless a stranger comes into the house. If your not comfortable with yourself at home in the nude you can't do it (pose nude) — you'll never make it.”

“I'm pretty comfortable in this skin now. I've had it for a long time.” What is Cosby, a svelte, porcelain-skinned young lady, most self-conscious about?

“Sometimes I'll get a two-inch wide bruise on my leg. It's embarrassing. But, I won't be offended if you draw the bruise.”

“I care more about whether or not they can get it right than how I look.”

At VCU, the use of models is purely educational. Their purpose, these three models contend, is not to amuse, but to be a muse for the world of art.

art f city

k of art —

25-year-old nude
VCU art student

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"There's nothing sexy about it. Modeling is on a totally different plane than dancing at the Red Light Inn (a local strip club)," Cosby said. "The goal is not to get people turned on. It's tasteful — not Hustleresque."

Merrill shares a similar attitude.

"I won't do anything I consider vulgar. No posing on my hands and knees," she said. "Anything you see in Hustler, you won't see on the stand. Sensual is good. Vulgar is not. This is sensual."

Penis shy

It seems to be male nudity that makes most students shy away. "People are very uncomfortable about drawing male genitalia,"

Allen said. "It has a lot to do with how children are brought up. We're a little more desensitized to female nudity. Male nudity is taboo. I find both the male and female physique very beautiful."

"Some center on the genitalia because they've never drawn it, but most others avoid it. Some won't even look at the pelvic-area of the body."

The first time Allen stripped before a class, one young man "freaked out." He carried on, Allen said, yelling things like, "Wait a minute, this is a man. What are y'all perverted or something?" "It upset him so much. I put my clothes back on and walked over to him."

"I told him, 'Think of me scientifically — as a piece of meat. There's nothing sexual about it. But, if you do have any sexual pangs that's OK' He calmed down by the third and last session."

Easy money

During the '80s the Art Foundation Program increased models' pay from minimum wage to about \$7 an hour.

Bleick said, "We found that models were being hired by the Virginia Museum (of Fine Arts) and the University of Richmond. Our models would say, 'We get paid better elsewhere,' and leave. So ten years ago we became more competitive."

Merrill, who posed for up to 12 classes each week last spring, is fed up with the notion that she and the other models are getting something for nothing.

"One person told me, 'That's an easy way to make \$7.' Freeze," she said. "I said, 'Don't move!'" After only five minutes in the type of pose Merrill is expected to hold for an hour, she said, he was asking how long it had been.

There are two main types of poses the models must maintain — gesture and long poses.

In gesture, the model freezes for 30 seconds to two minutes, while artists sketch the basic form. Though short-lived, gesture poses are dynamic and athletic, requiring models to do things such as dangle from beams or stand on one foot.

Long poses can run from 30 minutes to nearly two hours without a break. Try that without scratching an itch or disturbing the placement of a shadow or falling asleep.

"I tend to get very relaxed," Allen said. "Fighting sleep is a big thing. I snore."

Merrill said, "Sometimes if it's really quiet and warm and dark in the room, it's difficult to stay awake. So I just talk — about anything."

Body image

If someone is going to work in the nude, they need to be comfortable with their bodies.

"I'm fat," the piercing, blue-eyed Allen said, "but I'm quite comfortable with myself. We weren't born with clothes on, why wear them? When we (he and Merrill) walk in our front door at home the clothes come off."

Merrill added, "And they're not back on unless a stranger comes into the house. If you're not comfortable with yourself at home in the nude you can't do it (pose nude) — you'll never make it."

"I'm pretty comfortable in this skin now. I've had it for a long time." What is Cosby, a svelte, porcelain-skinned young lady, most self-conscious about?

"Sometimes I'll get a two-inch wide bruise on my leg. It's embarrassing. But, I won't be offended if you draw the bruise."

"I care more about whether or not they can get it right than how I look."

At VCU, the use of models is purely educational. Their purpose, these three models contend, is not to amuse, but to be a muse for the world of art.



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Volunteers must be healthy male and female patients, 18 to 50 years of age, and range 110 to 200 pounds. Benefits for participating include 1) surgery will be performed by an expert oral surgeon (faculty member of MCV); 2) surgical fees will be reduced by 30 percent to 50 percent; 3) patients will be given a \$75 honorarium for study participation, which will be sent by check within three weeks.

Information or scheduling may be obtained by calling Dr. Don Price at 804 828-1984, daytime or 353-5320, evening; or Cecilia in the Oral/Maxillofacial Surgery Clinic at 804 828-9754 or 828-9186.

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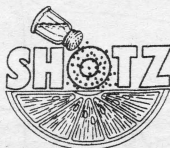
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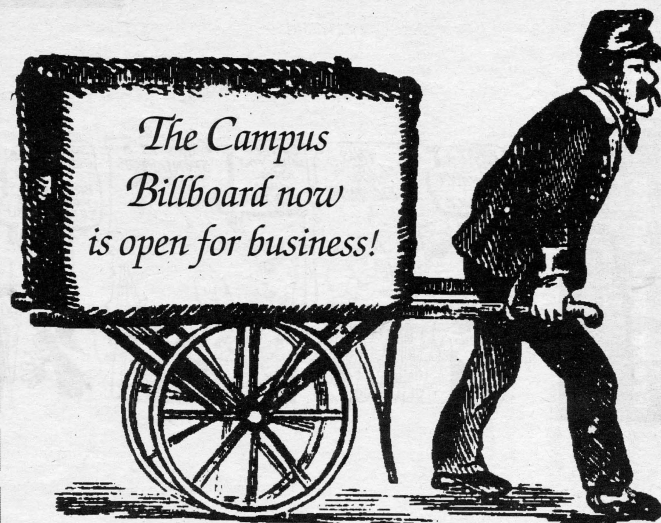
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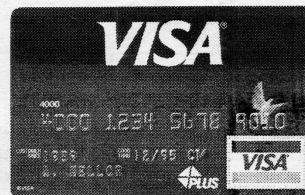
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All of you out there who contributed to the CT during the past year, don't forget to cast your vote for managing editor. The election will be conducted at 5 p.m. Thursday.

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Volleyball team has a new look for '95

Coveh Solaimani
CT SPORTS EDITOR

Editor's note: The following is the final installment of our four-part preview of VCU's fall sports.

After finishing the 1994 campaign with a 15-20 record, the VCU volleyball program has a whole new look for 1995.

A new coach, a new conference and six newcomers head the list of changes for the Lady Rams as first-year coach Cheryl Carlson leads her team in its inaugural season in the Colonial Athletic Association.

The team started the season with a disappointing 1-3 showing at the James Madison University Tournament, but Carlson expects the team to improve.

"We just have some inconsistencies we have to get rid of," Carlson said, "and I think we will as the season goes along."

The team showed signs of improvement during the weekend as Carlson's team took two of three matches to up their mark to 3-4.

Among the returning players for the Lady Rams, setter Suzanne Dawson and middle-hitter Cindy O'Brien will be counted on for leadership.

Dawson led the team in assists in 1994 and ranked fourth in the Metro Conference. After seven games this year, Dawson leads the team in assists once again.

"Suzanne does a really good job of staying calm on the court and keeping people focused on what's going on," Carlson said. "She does such a great job of setting and that's why I know that as we get rid of some of our inconsistencies we're just going to be better."

O'Brien was an all-tournament selection at the JMU tournament. She led the team in digs and kills and was tied for second in aces.

"She took on a good leadership role to open the season, and she's going to be one of our big time consistent players," said assistant coach Shannon McMeekin.

Added Carlson: "The way she plays is the way I want the team to play. She's just constantly aggressive and always going for it."

Their leadership will be vital to the team's success with the many freshman joining the team. Middle-hitter Jessica Chapman already is starting, and setter Mary Franke also is receiving some playing time.

Although her team is familiar with many of her new conference opponents, playing in the CAA will challenge them, Carlson said.

American University, George Mason University and William & Mary are expected to be the cream of the crop.

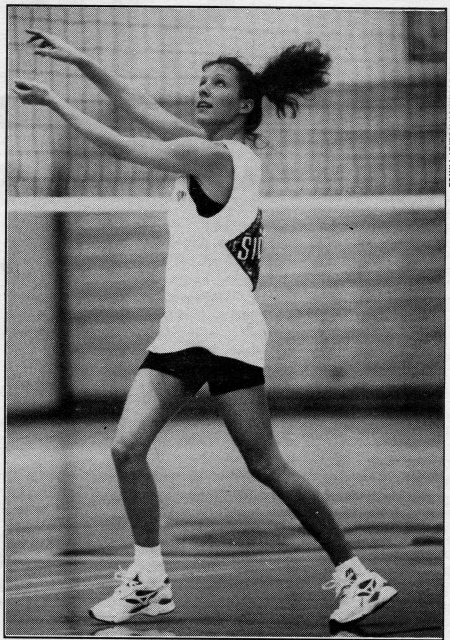
"I don't see why we couldn't finish at least fourth and on any given night depending on where we are with the freshman, I would really like to take a match from American, William & Mary and George Mason," Carlson said.

If the ballplayers want to upset one of the top dogs they will have to continue to play well defensively. Heading into this past weekend, Carlson's Lady Rams were first in the conference in digs per game.

"We started a new defense this year in which we have three different defenses, and I feel that contributes to us getting so many digs," O'Brien said.

Tomorrow night, VCU will host Hampton in its first home game of the season. Carlson said she hopes to use the game as an opportunity to give some players experience.

"I'd like to give Mary (Franke) and Taryl Kramp some experience setting, and since it's our first home game, I would really like for us to go out there and play with confidence and play well," Carlson said.



SIDE OUT — VCU's Suzanne Dawson practices setting as the Lady Rams prepare for Tuesday night's home opener.

Cross country team rebuilds with new goal

Rob Wilhelm
CT STAFF WRITER

Rebuilding is the key for the VCU men's and women's cross country teams' debut in the inaugural season of the Colonial Athletic Association, said coach Julian Spooner.

Last year, the men and women both finished fifth in the Metro. Spooner said the men and women will fare about the same in the more competitive CAA.

Although the outlook for each team might not be that great, Spooner said he has set goals for each individual runner to meet by seasons end.

"The beauty of cross country is that each runner can meet their own individual goals," he said, "while the team might not do that well."

On the men's side, Spooner expects sophomores Neil Mathews and Gene Grafenstein to compete for the top spot.

Mathews, from Mechanicsville, ran in the top five for VCU last year and said his goals this year were to stay healthy and make All-CAA.

To make the All-Conference list, a runner needs to finish in the top 10 at the conference championship meet.

Grafenstein, from Dale City, also ran in the top five for the Rams last season and said he has set his goal at making All-Conference, as well.

"We want to show people we will be around for a while," Grafenstein said, "and eventually win it all."

The rest of the men's team includes Girum Fisseha, Kenny Melvin, Jerome Jenkins, Kennon Outlaw, Simon Parlante and Isai

1995 cross country schedule

Sept. 8	William & Mary Invitational
16	Virginia Invitational
30	Greensboro Invitational
Oct. 7	East Carolina Invitational (W)
	William & Mary Invitational (M)
14	Furman Invitational (W)
28	CAA Championships in Williamsburg
Nov. 11	Regional Championships in Furman, S.C.
20	NCAA Championships in Ames, Iowa

1995 volleyball roster					
No.	Name	Height	Pos.	Class	Hometown/Institution
1	Delshahn Thomas	5-7	OH	Fr.	Mechanicsville/Lee Davis
2	Suzanne Dawson	5-8	S	Sr.	Boca Raton, Fla./Spanish River
3	Julie Blair	5-8	OH	Sr.	Midlothian/Midlothian
4	Kari Kramp	5-10	MH	Jr.	Madoc, Ontario/Centre Springs
5	Taryl Kramp	6-0	OH	Jr.	Madoc, Ontario/Centre Springs
8	Cindy O'Brien	5-10	MH	Jr.	Milwaukee/Pius XI
9	Mary Franke	5-11	S	Fr.	Fort Wayne, Ind./Concordia Lutheran
11	Jessica Chapman	5-11	MB	Fr.	Escondido, Calif./San Pasqual
14	Courtney Groome	5-10	OH	Fr.	Charlottesville/Albemarle
15	Sara Gatewood	5-11	MH	Fr.	Virginia Beach/Salem
16	Michelle Ellis	5-11	OH	Fr.	Richmond/Mills Godwin

Head coach: Cheryl Carlson
Assistant coach: Shannon McMeekin

Write for Sports!

Call Coveh or Terry at 828-1058.

Curve Ball

Q: When was the last time the Cleveland Indians appeared in postseason play?

TS&T 'V

SPORTS

Inside

• A preview of the volleyball and cross country teams.

MONDAY, September 11, 1995

Commonwealth TIMES

Vol. 27, No. 6

Sloat stops 10 in coaches' home debut

Win gives Rams momentum for clash with JMU tonight

Brian J. French
CT STAFF WRITER

Those who use the coaching philosophy that nobody is guaranteed a spot in the starting lineup do so knowing one of two things will happen:

(1) The players push themselves to move their game up a notch, realizing that if they fall, someone will be there to take their spot; or (2) the players get fed up with the variable nature of their status and quit.

So far, for the VCU field hockey team, the first option is taking form.

Kerriann Sloat stopped all 10 shots she faced as the Lady Rams knocked off Southwest Missouri State 2-0 Saturday at Cary Street Field.

"We were really ready — really mentally ready — to win," said Sloat.

The sophomore goalkeeper, who started the year competing against freshman Staci Smith, was rarely threatened as she posted her first shutout of the year in Phil and Shannon Danaher's home debut as field hockey coaches.

"She's (Sloat) doing a great job," Phil Danaher said. "They (Sloat and Smith) go hard and push each other. They work off of each other, and it helps Kerriann."

The Lady Bears outshot VCU (2-2) 18-15 and had seven corners to the Lady Rams' three, but they were unable to convert.

The first of VCU's goals came 1:18 into the game when Terri Staub made a shot from a right angle on the goal that SMSU goalkeeper

Becky Zuchowski let pass. It wasn't until Phil yelled to the referees that it was a goal that the shot was allowed, giving her goal number one for her career.

The Lady Rams' other goal came at the 28:21 mark of the second half, when Shannon

Lenhardt converted a corner shot. Both Terri and Toni Staub were credited with an assist.

That left Sloat to her own devices on staying focused during the spells when the play was in the midfield.

"I had to stay sharp," Sloat said. "I try to keep talking to myself; it helps to keep me in the game during those stretches."

The win against the Lady Bears, who defeated Radford 2-1 Friday, highlighted a number of improvements for the young squad, most notably in getting the ball out of the opponents' side of the field.

"It's still early, but I've seen tremendous improvement on a day-to-day basis," said coach Shannon. "They're learning from their mistakes."

The degree to which they learned those lessons will be given a stern field test tonight at Cary Street. The opponent: defending national champion and preseason No. 1 James Madison.

What game plan would the Lady Rams use here?

"If we come out strong, we can have a chance," Sloat said. "But we have to continue to play our game."

"Anyone can win out there."



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

IN A CROWD — Shannon Lenhardt fights for the ball in Saturday's 2-0 shootout of Southwest Missouri State University.

Locker rooms open soon

Terry Scanlon

CT ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Currently, it's not much more than a hole in the ground. But by the beginning of the new year it's supposed to be an extension of the Thalhimer Tennis Center.

According to a report from VCU's capital planning and facilities management, the \$390,000 expansion will include locker rooms, office space, a pro shop and public restrooms. Construction is scheduled to be completed by January 1996.

The location of the new facility is the east side of Linden Street between the tennis center and the General Purpose Academic Building. It will be attached to the bubble by a pressurized connector. The courts are protected by an air-supported bubble during the winter months.

Eva Bard, women's tennis coach and coordinator of the expansion

project, said the greatest benefit of the new facility will be running water and a place for players to change clothes.

Up to now tennis players have been walking across the street to Cary Street Gym for these accommodations.

Bard said although she is pleased with the tennis center as it is, the new facility "will make it a lot more desirable."

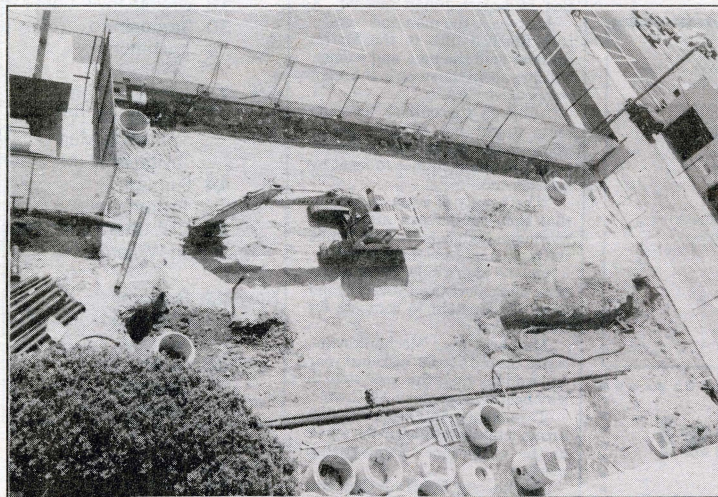
Men's tennis coach Paul Kostin said he believes those not on athletic teams will profit too.

"The benefits will be mainly for the people in the community, and the guys in practice to change," he said.

The center is available for use by physical-education classes, students, faculty and staff, alumni and Rams club members as well as athletic teams.

Constructed in 1989, the tennis center consists of six courts and seats 250 people.

The bubble was installed in December 1991.



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

DIGGING IT UP — The Thalhimer Tennis Center will have a new look in the spring that includes locker rooms and a pro shop.



VCU at home



Mon.
Tues.

Fri-Sat.
Fri.
Sat.

Sept. 11
Sept. 12

Sept. 15-16
Sept. 15
Sept. 16

Field hockey vs. James Madison
Men's soccer vs. William & Mary
Volleyball vs. Hampton
VCU Volleyball Tournament
Women's soccer vs. South Carolina
Women's soccer vs. Campbell

7 p.m.
7 p.m.
7 p.m.
TBA
1 p.m.
1 p.m.